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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-07 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SY-05
TRSE-00 /041 W

R 052031Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SESTATE WASHDC 8426
INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 0103

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, SHUM, AR
SUBJECT: THREAT AGAINST ARGENTINE AFFILIATE OF STERLING DRUG

DEPT FOR ARA/ECA; PANAMA FOR RSS

REF: B.A. 8137

1. ON 12/30/76, [] VICE PRESIDENT/GENERAL MANAGER
FARMACIA, STERLING DRUG AFFILIATE HERE, ADVISED EMBASSY OFFICERS
THAT (SAME DATE) THE WIFE OF AN ARGENTINE OFFICIAL OF THE COMPANY
WAS CALLED BY THE ERP AFTER 1900 HOURS. THE CALLER THREATENED
THE DEATH OF HER SON BEFORE JANUARY 2, 1977. HE THEN DEMONSTRATED
THE AUTHENTICITY OF HIS CALL BY REVEALING SPECIFIC KNOWLEDGE
ABOUT THE FIRM, INCLUDING A VISIT TO ARGENTINA BY THE COMPANY'S
U.S. PRESIDENT. HE SAID THE ERP HAD SOMETHING PLANNED FOR
HIM TOO.

2. [] THINKS THE INFORMATION CAME FROM INSIDE THE COMPANY,
AS ONLY 23 PEOPLE KNEW OF THE PROPOSED VISIT OF THE COMPANY
PRESIDENT. AS PRECAUTION, HE IMMEDIATELY SENT THE FAMILY TO
MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY.

3. RSO COMMENT: U.S. COMPANIES IN ARGENTINA AND THEIR MANAGEMENT
[REDACTED]
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HAVE BEEN HIT HARD BEFORE FROM OBVIOUS "INSIDE" LEAKS
OF INFORMATION (I.E. CHRYSLER ARGENTINA). THESE TACTICS PRESENT
LITTLE DANGER TO THE TERRORISTS IN PROPORTION TO THE FEAR THEY
INSTILL IN COMPANY MANAGEMENTS.
HILL

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